

## IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph starting at page 2, line 10 and ending at line 16. ✓

C1  
In this example, the lens system L1 is composed of an object-side imaging element for forming the image of the object 1 on the intermediate image plane 2 in the lens system L3, and the lens system L2 is composed of an image-side imaging element for reimaging the image on the intermediate image plane 2, on the final image plane 3.

Please delete the following paragraphs starting at page 11, line 3 and ending at line 18. ✓

C2  
Accordingly, in Figs. 6A to 6C, when the intermediate image plane 2 is imaged on the final image plane 3 where the image pickup device is located and when  $\beta_{11}$  represents the image magnification of the lens system 11 of the image-side imaging element, the size of the noise source posing the problem near the intermediate image plane 2 is not less than approximately the following:

$$5b/|\beta_{11}| \quad (\text{Eq 1}).$$

In this equation,  $|\beta_{11}|$  indicates the absolute value of the image magnification  $\beta_{11}$  of the lens system 11 being the image-side imaging element. For example, supposing the pixel size of CCD being the image pickup device is 5  $\mu\text{m}$  square and  $\beta_{11}$  is 1, the size of the noise source posing the problem near the intermediate image plane is not less than 25  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph starting at page 17, line 13 and ending at line 21. ✓

C<sup>3</sup> (2-2-2) a stop is provided near the entrance surface of said optical element and the relation set forth in Equation 3 below is satisfied;

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph starting at page 17, line 22 and ending at page 18, line 3. ✓

C<sup>4</sup> (2-2-3) a stop is provided near the entrance surface of said optical element and the relation set forth in Equation 4 below is satisfied;

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph starting at page 18, line 4 and ending at line 12. ✓

C<sup>5</sup> (2-2-4) a stop is provided near the entrance surface of said optical element and the relation set forth in Equation 5 below is satisfied;

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph starting at page 22, line 12 and ending at line 20. ✓

C<sup>6</sup> (4-2-2) a stop is provided near the entrance surface of said optical system and the relation set forth in Equation 3 below is satisfied;

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph starting at page 22, line 21 and ending at page 23, line 2. ✓

C<sup>7</sup> (4-2-3) a stop is provided near the entrance surface of said optical system and the relation set forth in Equation 4 below is satisfied;